



TOWN OF WEST HARTFORD

MEETING MINUTES

West Hartford Clean Energy Task Force

November 21, 2016

7:00 PM

Rm 405

1. Roll Call – 7:13 PM

Member	Present	Alternates	Present
Catherine Diviney	X	Vacant (resident)	
Robert Palmer		Max Dubuisson	X
Bernie Pelletier	X	Vacant (staff)	
Joe Campanella	X		
Chris Nelson			
Total	(3 needed for quorum)		
Additional Attendees	Dave Mello, Dan Tavelli		

2. Approval of Minutes

- a. Oct 17, 2016 - approved

3. Communications/Administration

- a. Dave Mello – alternate recommendation to Town Council

Catherine will collect resume and required info from Dave and submit to Town Clerk for Council approval.

- b. 2017 Meeting dates

Agreed that we will keep meetings on Mon Evenings – mid month. Max (on Chris's behalf) and Catherine to sign form. Catherine will confirm dates and book room 422 before submitting to Town Clerk.

4. Ongoing Business

- a. Hotel LEED

Catherine will continue to stay on this. It is important that they follow through on delivering an updated scorecard.

- b. Street Lights/Energy Projects

3000K and 4000K samples of 15W and 25W GE LED will be installed on side-streets as soon as Mark Hallenbeck returns to work.

- c. Energy / Recycling Plan – **nothing new to report**

5. New Business

- a. Revision of Alternative Energy Ordinance - Nov 9 Public Hearing recap (Bernie's comments on next page)

Bernie spoke his comments. The revision was basically a done deal. It still is unclear why Task Force was not included in revision process. Bernie thinks there might not have been enough time. Pat Alair indicated Task Force was involved in initial version. Revision will not prohibit solar

carports in school parking lots. Arnold Chase, West Hartford Resident on Avon Mountain, was there and pointed out some loopholes.

b. Stretch Code

Bernie asked if WH has ever thought of looking at a stretch energy code where the town would adopt more stringent energy codes than the regular state code. For example, could we require all new residential construction to be net-zero ready?

Catherine will invite someone from the Building Dept. to the Dec or Jan meeting to educate group and have a discussion on this topic.

c. Report on Solar Energy Association meeting, PACE meeting, and Climate Change conference

Bernie reported that Lynn Stoddard from the Institute for Sustainable Energy presented the new Sustainable CT Scorecard for municipalities, based on the Sustainable New Jersey model.

<http://www.easternct.edu/sustainenergy/sustainable-communities/>

d. Microgrid video – Bernie – <http://www.clean-coalition.org/our-work/community-microgrids/>

- Sterling, Massachusetts example

e. Charter Oak Presentation – Catherine

f. Plan for outreach next year – **postponed to Dec meeting**

Catherine mentioned that she would like to find a ways to include newer members of the Task Force to be active in the planning and organizing of events.

Joe mentioned that if we are going to focus on business outreach it would be nice to have some Task Force business cards, so they know we are sales people. Catherine will ask to have some made.

6. Adjournment – 8:50 PM

Bernie Pelletier
21Northcliff Drive
W Hartford 06117
Phone: 860 803 6272

Remarks

My name is Bernie Pelletier, I am a resident of WH, a member of the WH CETF and a partner in project called 100PercentCT.

I appreciate the chance to comment.

In both my roles with the WH CETF and the 100PecentCT project I am promoting widespread adoption of solar – residential – commercial – and municipal (including schools).

I am handing out 5 exhibits – 3 are simply web pictures of solar canopies over parking lots. I merely want to give you a visual of what I am talking about. The 4 and 5exhibits are a draft example proposal of what one of these would look like on – for example – Conard High – and how much energy it would produce (about as much as 240 residential installations).

Tonight my comments seek clarification that it is not the intent of this regulation change to prohibit or make it difficult to install these sorts of systems.

First – the pole mounted installation was a residential installation. There is at least one of these canopies installed at the Bank Parking lot on Farmington AVE. I'd like to make it clear that some of these requirements only apply to residential

Second Hall HS – Conard – all churches – and indeed all schools abut residential neighborhoods. It is my hope and expectation that parking lot canopies – professionally done are not to be excluded. Aesthetics should be considered of course as well as residential input.

Third - I read section 2a paragraphs 1 and 2 to allow such an installation to supply multiple meters as long as the utility could handle the power. Agree

Fourth – the height requirements in C (3) b 2 probably don't make sense – the height of parking canopies must be engineered to accommodate vehicles such as busses trucks and maintenance equipment

Fifth and finally the requirement for a 6-foot fence is not appropriate for a parking lot facility.

Finally I'd like to make this body aware of the existence of the WH Clean Energy Task Force and offer its counsel and assistance in the creation and drafting of matters like this before it is a fait accompli.

Thank you.